

# business voice

LAS VEGAS METRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | LVChamber.com | DECEMBER 2013

**MAKING**

**IT HAPPEN:**

BIG IDEAS,

CREATIVE

COLLABORATION

AND CAN-DO

ATTITUDES

FOR

SOUTHERN

NEVADA'S FUTURE

# Health Insurance Isn't One-Size-Fits-All.

**THE CHAMBER HEALTH PLAN GIVES YOU  
OPTIONS AND EXPERTISE FOR BUSINESSES  
WITH UP TO 99 FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES.**



Tailor your plan to fit your business and your needs. Get a quote today.

VISIT [CHAMBERIB.COM](http://CHAMBERIB.COM) OR CALL 702.586.3889.



# by the numbers: a year in review

**KRISTIN MCMILLAN**  
**PRESIDENT & CEO**

**I**n 2013, the Metro Chamber wore many hats, played many roles and represented many diverse needs as we worked in partnership to address community challenges, push for a diverse and healthy economy and help our member businesses grow and create jobs. As we get ready to close out the year, I thought I would share a few highlights with you – by the numbers.

We had a commanding full-time presence in the 2013 Legislature, where we advanced an agenda to protect the Southern Nevada business community, create jobs and remove impediments to our regional success. Tirelessly, our government affairs team monitored **1,250** bill requests, identified **125** of those to be of high-priority, and testified on **100** of those bills.

“Through Metro Chamber events, we connected more than **10,000** people and gave them opportunities to engage with and hear from some of the most leading figures in our community”

Our advocacy efforts didn't stop after the Legislature concluded, either. We supported several local infrastructure projects, such as the fuel tax indexing measure, which will help fund more than **180** roadway projects, including our portion of Interstate 11, and help create jobs and economic development opportunities for our region. The Chamber also participated in the Southern Nevada Water Authority's Integrated Resource Planning Advisory Committee to address our community's current and future water requirements.

Through Metro Chamber events, we connected more than **10,000** people at more than **100** events and gave you opportunities to engage with and hear from some of the most leading figures in our community, like U.S. Senator Harry Reid, Congressman Joe Heck, Congressman Steven Horsford, Congresswoman Dina Titus, Zappos CEO Tony Hsieh, President of the State Board of Education Elaine Wynn, Major General Jeffrey Lofgren, and City of North Las Vegas Mayor John Lee. JumpStart Vegas was launched in January to help connect startup entrepreneurs to resources and expertise. Already, **41** local startups have engaged in the program, and more than **100** Chamber members have signed up to offer assistance. **55** passionate, driven community leaders graduated the Leadership Las Vegas and Leadership North Las Vegas programs this year, and we welcomed **65** participants into the classes of 2014.

And that's not all. Chamber Insurance & Benefits activated an early renewal for our **2,700** members with the Chamber Health Plan to help them navigate the complexities of the Affordable Care Act. The Customer Service Excellence program rewarded more than **5,000** of the Valley's dedicated front-line employees, and **25** trailblazers, innovators, pacesetters, groundbreakers and pacesetters were honored through the Business Excellence Awards. Our members saved **thousands** of bottom-line dollars with the Office Depot program, and through the Nevada Drug Card, Nevadans have saved more than **\$17 million** on prescription drug costs.

We are a growing, vibrant organization, expanding Vegas Young Professionals to more than **2,000** members, welcoming nearly **900** new members (and counting!), and gaining more than **1,000** Facebook fans and **4,000** Twitter followers this year. I am both excited and proud of the progress we've made and the direction in which we are heading.

# WHO DO YOU WANT TO TALK TO?

DEAL MAKERS?  
DECISION MAKERS?  
LAW MAKERS?  
HOMEMAKERS?

Reach them all by supporting **Nevada Public Radio**. On the air, in print and online, we connect businesses with the most coveted audiences in our community.

Contact [Christine@nevadapublicradio.org](mailto:Christine@nevadapublicradio.org) for sponsorship or advertising opportunities.

**NEWS 88.9**  
**knpr** CLASSICAL  
89.7 KCNV  
NEVADA PUBLIC RADIO | HD Radio

**desert**  
COMPANION  
YOUR GUIDE TO LIVING IN SOUTHERN NEVADA



VOLUME 34 NUMBER 12

**Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce**  
8363 W. Sunset Road, Suite 250  
Las Vegas, NV 89113  
702.641.5822 • LVChamber.com

**Kristin McMillan**  
President & CEO  
Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce

## 2013 Board of Trustees Executive Committee

**Jay Barrett**  
Chairman of the Board  
The JABarrett Company

**Kevin Orrock**  
Immediate Past Chairman  
The Howard Hughes Corporation

**Bruce Spotleson**  
Chairman-Elect  
Vegas PBS

**Hugh Anderson**  
HighTower Las Vegas

**Michael Bonner**  
Greenberg Traurig, LLP

**Bob Brown**  
Las Vegas Review-Journal

**Nancy Wong**  
Arcata Associates, Inc.

The Business Voice  
(USPS #717-970) is published by  
The Las Vegas Metro  
Chamber of Commerce.  
8363 W. Sunset Road, Suite 250  
Las Vegas, NV 89113

Annual Subscription \$25  
Periodical postage paid at  
Las Vegas, NV  
POSTMASTER:  
Send address changes to:  
The Las Vegas Metro  
Chamber of Commerce,  
8363 W. Sunset Road, Suite 250  
Las Vegas, NV 89113

Printed locally  
by Creel Printing

## Production Team

**John Osborn**  
Publisher

**Greta Beck-Seidman**  
Managing Editor

**MJ Dennis**  
Production  
Coordinator

**Cara Clarke**  
Executive Editor

**Nick Claus**  
Graphic Designer

**Advertising Inquiries**  
702.383.0337

## Trustees

**Bob Ansara**  
Ricardo's of Las Vegas, Inc.

**Lisa Beckley**  
The Beckley Group

**Mike Bolognini**  
Cox Communications, Las Vegas

**Senator Richard Bryan**  
Lionel Sawyer & Collins

**Kevin Burke**  
Burke Construction Group, Inc.

**Tim Cashman**  
Las Vegas Harley-Davidson

**Alexandra Epstein**  
El Cortez Hotel & Casino

**Jeff Grace**  
NetEffect

**John Guedry**  
Bank of Nevada

**Dallas Haun**  
Nevada State Bank

**Jerry Irwin**  
Miracle Mile Shops at  
Planet Hollywood

**Bart Jones**  
Merlin Contracting & Developing

**Greg Lee**  
Eureka Casino Resort

**Lesley McVay**  
Switch

**Bill Nelson**  
Piercy Bowler Taylor & Kern

**Jeff Oberschelp**  
CenturyLink

**Karla Perez**  
Valley Health System

**Gina Polovina**

**Jonathan Schwartz**  
Miltson Consulting, Inc.

**Larry Singer**  
Newmark Grubb Knight Frank

**Mike Small**  
IGT

**Neal Smatresk**  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Vicky VanMeeteren**  
St. Rose Dominican Hospitals,  
San Martin Campus

## Past Chairmen

**Charles Ruthe** 1977

**Berlyn Miller** 1979

**Phil Arce** 1984

**Elaina Blake** 1985

**Dave Vlaming** 1986

**Jeffrey A. Silver** 1988

**Peter Thomas** 1989

**William Martin** 1991

**Bob Maxey** 1992

**Denny Weddle** 1993

**David Smith** 1994

**Ted Wiens, Jr.** 1995

**John O'Reilly** 1996

**Diane Dickerson** 1997

**Edward Crispell** 1998

**Bill Wells** 2001

**Jay Kornmayer** 2002

**Lou Emmert** 2003

**Tim Cashman** 2004

**Hugh Anderson** 2005

**John Wilcox** 2006

**Fafie Moore** 2008

**Steve Hill** 2009

**Kristin McMillan** 2010

**Michael Bonner** 2011

**Kevin Orrock** 2012

## EDITORIAL POLICY:

The *Business Voice* is a member newsletter of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce. The Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce welcomes input, ideas and suggestions from our members. As with any periodical, we must adhere to strict deadlines and we reserve the right to edit all materials submitted for publication. Commentaries that are marked as such do not necessarily reflect the opinion or position of the Chamber, its trustees or employees. The Chamber cannot guarantee the validity or accuracy of the contents of paid advertisements. Questions or concerns about content of the *Business Voice* can be addressed to Vice President of Marketing, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce, 8363 W. Sunset Road, Suite 250, Las Vegas, NV 89113.



# table of contents

## DECEMBER 2013

- 06 Chamber News
- 08 News You Need
- 09 For Your Benefit
- 10 Working For You
- 12 Your Scene | You're Seen
- 14 **Making It Happen**
- 18 A Community United
- 20 What's Happening
- 22 Board Spotlight
- 24 Spotlights
- 26 Member Insights
- 28 Member News
- 30 Member to Member
- 31 Chamber Insurance & Benefits
- 32 Ribbon Cuttings
- 36 Vegas Young Professionals
- 38 Final Word

**"2014 PROMISES  
TO BE A YEAR OF  
MAKING IT HAPPEN."**

**14**

MAKING IT HAPPEN



**27**

NORTH LAS VEGAS



**10**

WORKING FOR YOU



**08**

NEWS YOU NEED



**18**

BUILDING ROADS AND OUR FUTURE



**28**

MEMBER NEWS



**30**

THE ROI OF BUSINESS GIVING



**36**

VYP

# chamber news

## make new business happen at preview las vegas 2014!

Gain access to nearly 2,000 executives empowered to make purchasing decisions. Generate new leads. Get valuable brand exposure. These are just a few reasons to exhibit at Preview Las Vegas on Friday, January 24, at the Thomas & Mack Center - Cox Pavilion. Exhibitor spaces at Preview Las Vegas are first-come, first-served, and are a great way to make a first impression to the business community in 2014. At Preview Las Vegas, you can introduce a new product or service, reacquaint the Las Vegas market with your services and renew business relationships. For more information or to reserve your booth today, visit [PreviewLasVegas.com](http://PreviewLasVegas.com) or call 702.641.5822.

## business leads the way at annual installation luncheon

Don't miss your opportunity to engage with Metro Chamber leadership and hear from incoming chairman Bruce Spotleson, veteran media executive and Director of Corporate Partnerships at Vegas PBS, as he shares his insights on how business will lead the way in 2014 and beyond during the Installation Luncheon on Tuesday, December 3. During the luncheon, the 2014 Board of Trustees will be sworn in and Spotleson will share his vision for the business community in the new year. This year's luncheon will take place at the Aria Resort & Casino from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$60 for members, \$70 for non-members and \$80 for walk-ins. Tables of ten are also available for purchase. For more information or to get your tickets and tables, visit [LVChamber.com](http://LVChamber.com).



## raise a glass to new business relationships at business after hours

Join the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, December 11, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. for the last Business After Hours of 2013 at Bistro 57 inside Aliante Hotel + Casino. Create new relationships and soak in the holiday atmosphere as you sample the tastes and flavors of the newly-redesigned wine bar. During this event, you'll have the opportunity to expand your professional network, reacquaint yourself with associates, and celebrate a great year of business building. For more information or to register, visit [LVChamber.com](http://LVChamber.com) or call 702.641.5822.

## metro chamber office depot program takes a bite out of apple prices

Through the Metro Chamber's popular Office Depot program, Chamber members can now access exclusive discounts on select Apple products. Just in time for the holidays, these discounts are an opportunity for you to invest in some of the most cutting edge technology for your business, including the iPad, iPad Mini, MacBooks and accessories. For more information on this special savings opportunity exclusively through the Metro Chamber Office Depot program, visit [LVChamber.com/office-depot](http://LVChamber.com/office-depot).

# Think Direct Mail is Difficult?



## Think Again.

At [www.digitallizardprint.com](http://www.digitallizardprint.com) we'll have your Direct Mail Postcard processed and in the mail within 48 HOURS.

Contact Us at  
[customerservice@digitallizard.com](mailto:customerservice@digitallizard.com)  
or Call 866-494-6155 To Get Started!

**DIGITAL  
LIZARD**

**CREEL**  
PRINTING

Digital Lizard is a  
CREEL Printing Company

 [digitallizardprint](https://www.facebook.com/digitallizardprint)



# news you need



## osha compliance process simplified through silverflume portal

Businesses spend \$170 billion a year on costs associated with occupational injuries and illnesses. Workplaces that establish safety and health management systems can reduce these costs by 20-40 percent. Now, it's easier to put these systems into place for your business. Nevada businesses can now more easily navigate Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) compliance with the new addition of the state's OSHA safety and health requirements on NVSilverFlume.gov, Nevada's online business portal. The new step in the SilverFlume Business Checklist requires Nevada employers to encourage their employees to read the Nevada Workplace Rights and Responsibilities brochure or view the corresponding video. Employers can also access training schedules, free upcoming safety classes and required workplace posters. For more information, visit NVSilverFlume.gov.

## ccsd and detr partner for nevada youth website

Employers who would normally post jobs with the Clark County School District are now being asked to post job announcements suitable for young people at NevadaYouth.org, the state's youth employment website. "We are pleased to partner with the Clark County School District in this effort to help young people find employment and get prepared for transitioning in the workforce," says Frank Woodbeck, director for Nevada's Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation. The website also provides tools for young people, including resume writing and interview tips, labor statistics, weekly job announcements and resources for training and education. For more information, visit NevadaYouth.org.

## city of las vegas debuts new business portal to streamline services

In December, City of Las Vegas Business Licensing launches its new online business portal and website. Anyone holding a business license in the City will now be able to conduct licensing and renewals through a personalized online account. The new Licensing Portal will allow businesses to combine multiple licenses into one central account and will feature the options to receive all correspondence and renewal notifications electronically. The Portal will replace the current 30-year old system, giving the City of Las Vegas the opportunity to take advantage of today's online technology, advance the capability to offer more regional licensing categories and allow customers to interact in a more secure online environment. The new Licensing Portal will continue to add features over the next year and will provide enhanced coordination with state agency and other local government licensing.

Businesses can sign up on the City of Las Vegas Business Licensing website, LasVegasNevada.gov. Establishing an account will require your City of Las Vegas License number, Nevada Secretary of State ID number and an email address.

## irs tax calendar for small businesses and self-employed now available online

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has released the 2014 calendars for small businesses and the self-employed. The IRS tax calendar will no longer be printed, but is available online at irs.gov. Using the calendar feature, business owners can view due dates and actions for each month, either through all events or filtered by monthly depositor, semiweekly depositor, excise or general event types. Calendars are available in both English and Spanish.



# for your benefit

# M

etro Chamber members can obtain discounted – or free – certificates of origin at the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce offices. A certificate of origin is a document used to authenticate the country of origin for merchandise shipping out of the country. This certificate is vital in determining what duty will be assessed on the goods, or even if the goods can be legally imported. Chamber members with international shipping needs can certify their goods and have the certificates of origin notarized in one convenient location at the Metro Chamber offices. President's Club and Executive Level members can obtain certificates of origin at no charge; Premier members are \$15 per certificate, and general members are \$25 per certificate. Instructions for preparing the document, as well as a downloadable form, are available at [LVChamber.com](http://LVChamber.com).

need to ship goods  
internationally?  
get your certificates of origin  
at the metro chamber



# FORWARD TOGETHER

"We have a relationship that is multi-pronged. Joyce started out as my banker, then became a friend, and now we are out there together building this community."

*Eva Martin  
McDonald's Franchisee &  
Ronald McDonald House Charities  
Board of Directors Member*



Bank of Nevada's Joyce Smith with Roberta and Eva Martin



To read their story, visit [bankofnevada.com/RMHC](http://bankofnevada.com/RMHC)

**702.248.4200**

Bank of Nevada is an affiliate of Western Alliance Bancorporation



11/13

# working for you



## 2

2013 was a monumental year for government affairs at the Metro Chamber. At every level of government, the Metro Chamber made great strides in representing you and championing public policies that will transform

Southern Nevada. Here are just a few of the ways the Metro Chamber Government Affairs team worked for you in 2013:

The Metro Chamber drove public policy on behalf of the Southern Nevada business community in the 2013 Legislature. The Metro Chamber effectively fought to increase education funding for all levels in Southern Nevada through Senate Bill (SB) 504 and SB 522. The Metro Chamber pushed for more resources for early childhood education and K-12 public schools in order to improve graduation rates and elevate student reading by the third grade.

The Metro Chamber also successfully advocated for direct funding by the state towards English Language Learner students in Clark County schools to help them better achieve success in the classroom. And as a result of SB 521, Southern Nevada will receive a greater share of the state's higher education dollars, benefiting UNLV, Nevada State College and the College of Southern Nevada.

A priority of the Metro Chamber was to aggressively pursue improvements in the condition and performance of Southern Nevada's infrastructure to be more competitive in the global market. The Metro Chamber worked tirelessly to ensure that Southern Nevada has the necessary tools to address critical infrastructure transportation needs in our community through the successful passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 413, which enables Clark County to utilize fuel tax indexing to fund and build 183 transportation projects in Southern Nevada, while SB 322 increases Southern Nevada's representation on the Nevada Department of Transportation Board of Directors.

The Metro Chamber also successfully supported efforts to defeat proposed legislation that would have had a negative impact on the business community such as unfunded healthcare mandates (SB 156), joint & several liability (AB 240), pre-litigation discovery (SB 111), and wage garnishment (SB 373).

At the local level, the Metro Chamber helped drive efforts to successfully pass the fuel tax indexing ordinance at the Clark County Commission. The Metro Chamber also successfully advocated for the passage of a rate reduction for Clark County commercial and residential sewer customers.



The Metro Chamber made significant strides in the designation of Tule Springs as Nevada's first national monument by supporting a state resolution and traveling to Washington, D.C. to advocate for this important legislation. Two weeks later, Metro Chamber president and CEO Kristin McMillan testified before a Congressional hearing on the myriad social, economic and educational benefits the designation would bring to Southern Nevada.

The development of the I-11 Congressional Caucus in Washington, D.C. was paramount in 2013, and was strongly supported by the Metro Chamber. The Caucus held its kick-off event with Congressional leaders and the Metro Chamber this fall. This group is dedicated to the construction of I-11, the proposed highway between Las Vegas and Phoenix.

## BIZPAC

We cannot expect to have a pro-business climate if we do not support and elect candidates who understand and support business. The Metro Chamber is standing up for you, your business and our economy every day. BizPAC, a state political action committee, allows the Metro Chamber to advocate on behalf of your business and is the most cost-effective way for you to engage in this process. To make a contribution to BizPAC or to find out more information, contact Kelly Martinez at 702.641.5822 or [kmartinez@lvchamber.com](mailto:kmartinez@lvchamber.com).



**TL:** Jay Barrett, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Hugh Anderson, Chairman of the Government Affairs Committee and Past Chairman Tim Cashman meet with state legislators in Carson City, NV during the 2013 Legislative Session.

**TM:** Kristin McMillan, North Las Vegas Mayor John Lee and Las Vegas City Councilman Steve Ross testify in front of the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation in support of the Las Vegas Valley Public Land and Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument Act.

**TR:** Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce delegation at the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, DC.

**BR:** Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce members meet with State Legislators in Carson City, NV.



# your scene | you're seen



eggs & issues  
featuring u.s.  
congress-  
woman  
dina titus



Congresswoman Dina Titus addressed the Metro Chamber membership on the designation of Tule Springs as a national monument, healthcare and other topics important to the Southern Nevada business community. After her remarks, Congresswoman Titus participated in a Q & A session with attendees.



customer  
service  
excellence  
luncheon



The Metro Chamber celebrated the stars of customer service in Las Vegas during the Customer Service Excellence Luncheon. The program, in partnership with the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, rewards employees who continually go above and beyond to provide outstanding customer service throughout the Valley. For more information on how your company can get involved in the program, visit [LVChamber.com/cse](http://LVChamber.com/cse).



# Reach Chamber Members Every Month

The publication  
dedicated to  
promoting our  
members and the  
business issues that  
concern them.



Includes an ad on  
**lvchamber.com**

## Net Rates\*

Inside Front Cover	\$2,430
Full Page	\$1,905
1/2 Page	\$1,055
1/4 Page	\$585



Contact  
Stella Morales  
**702-321-1148**

\*Net rates for 12 insertion commitment, also  
includes a monthly ad on lvchamber.com

# THE FLOW OF INFORMATION

Left unattended, it runs us.  
Leverage technology and  
we manage it.

**Rethink** documents.  
**Rethink** information.  
**Rethink** Les Olson Company.



**800.365.8804 lesolson.com**

## Is your company data **secure?**

**85%** of US Companies  
have experienced  
at least one data  
**Security Breach.**

Ask about our Risk Assessment Survey

**(702) 25-SHRED • (702) 257-4733**  
**www.shredit.com/lv**



Making sure  
it's secure.™

Proud member of Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce since 1998.



**GOOD  
MORNING  
LAS VEGAS**

**4:30-7:00AM WEEKDAYS**

**IT'S ALL ABOUT  
MORNINGS!**



**CASEY  
SMITH**

**BETH  
FISHER**

**JESSICA  
JANNER**



**KTNV.COM**



**TOGETHER  
MAKING LAS VEGAS  
A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE**

**MAKING  
IT HAPPEN:**

**BIG IDEAS,  
CREATIVE  
COLLABORATION  
AND CAN-DO  
ATTITUDES  
FOR  
SOUTHERN  
NEVADA'S  
FUTURE**

# P

Partnership. Collaboration. Progress.

2013 was a benchmark year for Southern Nevada, giving the region solid footing for advancing a number of concepts, projects

and initiatives to give us a place in the 21st century global economy. The Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce took an active role in partnering with different people and organizations to strengthen our region, advance game-changing ideas and secure new resources for Southern Nevada. What emerged from these partnerships and advocacy efforts was a “make it happen” attitude to carry into 2014. This year saw an eventful legislative session in Carson City, as well as confronting critical infrastructure issues with a common-sense, can-do perspective, and creating new opportunities that make sense for our community.

## Southern Nevada Priorities

Prior to the legislative session getting underway, key stakeholders in Southern Nevada met to develop a set of policy priorities for our region. The elected leadership, under the guidance of Speaker of the Nevada State Assembly Marilyn Kirkpatrick, developed a game plan for advancing the issues paramount to Southern Nevada, including reforming K-12 education, higher education and governance structures, as well as developing plans for local infrastructure and economic development projects.

The Metro Chamber was at the table from the beginning and during these discussions to represent the needs and opportunities of the Southern Nevada business community and underscore the significant stake of the business community for the future health and growth of the region. These efforts represented a major step forward in solving the long-standing inequities of funding and resource allocation throughout the state.

## K-12 Education/ELL Funding

Prior to the start of the legislative session, the Metro Chamber identified a series of priorities it would use as guideposts during the Legislature. One of these priorities, K-12 education, identified a substantial need for Southern Nevada to have more resources dedicated to English Language Learners (ELLs). Clark County School District serves 77 percent of the state’s ELLs. This demographic tends to fall behind their peers in academic achievement, according to a 2013 study by the Lincy Institute, and require additional resources that are simply not available to them. Through partnership with our local elected officials in the Southern Nevada, as well as key stakeholders within the local education and business communities,



The Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce Delegation in Carson City, NV during the 2013 Legislative Session.

ELLs in Southern Nevada were able to gain some momentum with the passage of key legislation to address funding needs and programs, as well as develop and implement a specific ELL plan for Nevada.

The Metro Chamber believes that with their predominant role in the composition of our public school system, ELL students’ success rates have a direct bearing on the success of our school district and our state. Improving the performance of our ELLs gives our region more of an opportunity to succeed, which has myriad and widespread effects on our region as a whole.

During the legislative session, the Metro Chamber was one of the leading organizations successfully touting the importance of providing additional resources to this key demographic in our public school system. A better education system improves the chances of our students, gives them more incentive to stay here to pursue advanced education and careers, makes our region more attractive for individuals and businesses looking to relocate here, and offers higher rates of income, likelihood of voting, volunteerism and civic engagement. Improving the educational experience for such a large demographic of Clark County’s public school students has the capability to do all of these things; thanks to the dedication, hard work and collaboration of several of these key stakeholders, Clark County’s ELL students now have the potential for more resources being available to them.

## Infrastructure

It was a big year for Southern Nevada’s roadways. A fuel tax indexing measure passed through the State Legislature and the County Commission. The Metro Chamber was a driver of pushing this measure



U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid meets with Metro Chamber representatives during their annual trip to Washington, DC.



Las Vegas City Councilman Steve Ross, U.S. Representative Joe Heck and Las Vegas Metro Chamber President and CEO Kristin McMillan.

forward and helped gain support from other business leaders and key stakeholders in the Southern Nevada community. The fuel tax indexing measure means much more than clearing away congestion from some of our Valley's most traveled roads. It gives more than 180 regional and local roadway projects the possibility of funding, including enhancing mobility for Maryland Parkway to the Las Vegas Convention Center and the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority's planned Global Business District, as well as the proposed Interstate 11, a key component in economic development and diversification, increased trade, and job creation, among other benefits. The fuel tax indexing, according to Regional Transportation Commission general manager Tina Quigley, will provide the necessary funding for the first part of Nevada's portion of Interstate 11.

## Water Resources

Water is a critical piece of Southern Nevada's infrastructure. Recent years have plagued our region with drought, and while as a community, businesses and residents managed to reduce water usage by a third, the future sustainability and growth of our region must account for responsible and long-term solutions to these water scarcity issues.

In 2013, the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), under the direction of general manager Pat Mulroy and senior deputy general manager John Entsminger, continued to work in collaboration with the six other states that share the Colorado River, as well as federal partners and the country of Mexico to make the most of the existing resources. To address continual or intensified drought, SNWA also began work on modifying existing resources in the event that water resources reach critical levels prior to the completion of the third intake straw.

With representatives on the SNWA Integrated Resource Planning Advisory Committee (IRPAC), the Metro Chamber took an active role to make recommendations on the financial impact of ensuring our current and future water requirements. IRPAC recently developed and recommended a fair and equitable water rate increase for residents and businesses, relying on consumption and usage-based components. Fire line meter charges, which gave some businesses major sticker shock in 2012, will not increase. IRPAC's second phase will include developing recommendations on resources, facilities, conservation and water quality – critical issues to address as the region looks to diversify its business and industry base and create new opportunities for existing businesses and residents. For more information on IRPAC and new water rates, visit [snwa.com](http://snwa.com).

## Tule Springs National Monument

For years, several groups, community leaders and lawmakers have advocated for the designation of Tule Springs as Nevada's first national monument. Aside from creating a new niche in tourism for the area, the bill would open up some of the land bordering the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas for recreation, development and other economic opportunities. Several groups, such as the Las Vegas Ice Age Park Foundation and the Protectors of Tule Springs, have supported and campaigned for the designation, and in the 2013 Legislature, both the Nevada Senate and Assembly passed Assembly Joint Resolution 1 in support for the designation.

During the Metro Chamber's 2013 visit to Washington, D.C., key members of Chamber leadership, as well as Mayor John Lee from the City of North Las Vegas, met with Congressman Rob Bishop of Utah, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation, to discuss the bill. Two weeks later, Metro



Chamber president and CEO Kristin McMillan, as well as Mayor Lee and Las Vegas City Councilman Steve Ross were called to testify in favor of the bill in front of the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation.

## Downtown Las Vegas

This year, improvements and changes to Downtown Las Vegas included the opening of the Downtown Grand, the newest addition to the downtown hotel corridor, as well as several other restaurants, shops, bars and other cultural landmarks opening and enjoying success in the revitalized area. Zappos completed its headquarters' move downtown, and the premiere of the Life is Beautiful Festival garnered international attention as it drew in thousands for a celebration of music, food, art and culture. The excitement for Downtown Las Vegas hasn't dwindled or dulled. In fact, with the openings of Container Park and the Inspire Theater, the energy of this cultural resurgence isn't likely to wane.

## A Changing Skyline

In 2013, the Las Vegas Strip began changing shape. With the addition of the Quad and its observation wheel and the first glimpse of the 20,000-seat arena from MGM Resorts International and AEG, the iconic Las Vegas skyline is enhancing its shape and adding to its dimension. Movement on the Strip is also happening through the purchasing of the former Echelon property by the Genting Group. Additionally, the Sahara began its transformation into the SLS Hotel & Casino and is scheduled to open in 2014. On a citywide level, major Strip properties are taking steps to become a more walkable, pedestrian-friendly tourism corridor, a leap from what property owners and developers had originally envisioned when they were constructed. With the changing dynamic of the Strip's topography, as well as new projects and enhancements, 2014 will realize big changes for one of the world's most recognizable streets.

## International Tourism

Tourism generates a \$45 billion impact in Southern Nevada, and supports 47 percent of the local workforce (roughly 382,000 jobs). At Preview Las Vegas, the LVCVA brought forth plans for the Las Vegas Global Business District, a three-phase project designed to make Las Vegas an even bigger player in international business hospitality. Phase one will renovate and improve upon the existing convention center space and create a convention district campus, with additional meeting space, expanded food and beverage offerings, and upgraded technology. The second phase of the project creates an international business center by expanding the World Trade Center

designation to give the LVCVA an opportunity to increase Las Vegas' market share by attracting more meetings and conventions to the area. The final phase would create a centralized transportation hub to improve connectivity to the resort corridor. The LVCVA is working with local and state transportation authorities to explore options for this phase.

During the unveiling, LVCVA President/CEO Rossi Ralenkotter reiterated the importance of keeping Las Vegas at the forefront of the travel and tourism industry. "Las Vegas is known for defining moments that change the hospitality industry, and this project will be the next defining moment. This is more than a project; this is a vision that will launch Las Vegas forward ahead of the competition for decades to come."

## "2014 PROMISES TO BE A YEAR OF MAKING IT HAPPEN."

During its annual trip to Washington, D.C., the Metro Chamber met with key members of Nevada's Congressional delegation to advocate for adopting the Jobs Originating Through Launching Travel (JOLT) Act because of the positive economic impact it would have on Southern Nevada's business and tourism sector. The JOLT Act, introduced by Congressman Joe Heck of Nevada, would address current inefficiencies in the visa system, expand visa processing efforts in high-demand countries, such as Brazil and China, and allow expansion of the eligibility of the Visa Waiver Program. The bill, with bipartisan support, has the potential to be a game-changer for our region, and was one of the Metro Chamber's key identified priorities for 2013.

Through the LVCVA's expansion plans and the potential benefits of the JOLT Act, several key players in economic development in Southern Nevada have stepped up to diversify our core industry and keep Southern Nevada not only a major player, but the front runner, in travel and tourism.

This is just a smattering of the creative, broad-based ideas beginning to gain momentum. Through our business and community leaders embracing new and existing collaborations, 2014 promises to be a year of "making it happen."

By Greta Beck-Seidman



## A COMMUNITY UNITED: BUILDING ROADS AND OUR FUTURE

T

he Great Recession took a great toll on Southern Nevada, but we are rebounding and building an even stronger and more diversified community. In doing so, we have learned that many of our greatest successes come from working together.

It's no surprise that our most successful efforts to rebuild our economy have been based on partnerships and collaboration. In my opinion, our community has become more collaborative than ever before. We are working together to create a vibrant city that our residents are proud to call home and that attracts new residents, businesses and industries.

The foundation of any vibrant city is a strong and diverse economy. And a strong, diverse economy depends on a transportation system that enables goods to be delivered, workers to get to their jobs, and tourists to travel to and around our city safely and efficiently.

I'm especially proud that this year, our community has come together to take the necessary steps to invest in our transportation infrastructure so that we can bolster our economy, create jobs and prepare our region for the future.

Indexing the Clark County fuel tax to the rate of inflation united our local business community, government entities and various community organizations that all recognized this as the fairest, quickest and most effective option to raise critically needed funds for transportation projects throughout Southern Nevada.

Over the years, the purchasing power of the revenue we receive from local fuel taxes has declined as people drive more fuel-efficient cars and as inflation has made the cost of road construction more expensive. Without fuel tax indexing, the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) would be severely limited in its ability to meet the transportation needs of a rebounding, changing and growing region of roughly two million people.

Similar to what Washoe County does in Northern Nevada, fuel tax indexing will enable Clark County to keep up with our most critical transportation needs.

Some residents remember the days before we built the 215 Beltway. And many more remember when it didn't completely connect Henderson to Summerlin. Others may not be able to imagine the valley without it. Yet, the Beltway is still not finished. Completing portions of the northern Beltway is a priority that will be funded by fuel tax indexing and one that will help to improve workforce mobility in that growing part of town.

In fact, thanks to fuel tax indexing, there are now 185 regionally and locally significant roadway projects slated to be funded, from Boulder City to the northern portion of the Beltway, and from Flamingo Road to Mesquite.

Design improvements to ease traffic congestion and enhance mobility of pedestrians, cyclists and transit riders are planned for Maryland Parkway, one of the busiest corridors in Southern

Nevada that connects McCarran International Airport, UNLV, the Boulevard Mall, downtown Las Vegas and hundreds of businesses and homes along the way.

Fuel tax indexing revenue will also benefit the area around the Las Vegas Convention Center, including the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority's planned Global Business District. Funding will help design roadways that will enable the millions of visitors we welcome each year to get around this busy area more efficiently, helping to ensure that Las Vegas continues to be one of the world's top convention destinations.

Fuel tax indexing will also fund construction of regional projects, like the proposed Interstate 11 (I-11) highway connecting Las Vegas to Phoenix – the only two major metropolitan areas in the United States not currently connected by an interstate. I-11 will help prevent traffic gridlock and allow more people and products to travel more safely and efficiently into and through Southern Nevada. It will also enable Southern Nevada to benefit from the global impact of increased trade within the north-south corridor that connects our nation's top trading partners, Mexico and Canada. Fuel tax indexing will provide the funding necessary to move I-11 forward on Nevada's side of the state line.

Thankfully, our business, government and community leaders recognized the importance of these and many other transportation projects to keeping Southern Nevada moving forward.

By coming together on this issue, we will help meet the needs of our community, support continued economic growth and create thousands of jobs. It's no wonder so many local businesses, large and small, stepped forward to support the fuel tax indexing initiative this year. The support the initiative received from the real estate, logistics, construction, car sales, and utility industries was particularly significant.

Moving forward, I'm eager to see how this unified approach fuels the economic and civic success of Southern Nevada. After all, every investment we make in our transportation infrastructure is an investment in Nevada's economic future.



By: Tina Quigley  
General Manager of the Regional  
Transportation Commission of  
Southern Nevada



## For health insurance answers, head our way.

The Affordable Care Act means big things for your business. And that means you probably have some big questions, too. **The Nevada Division of Insurance** provides answers and insight into the cost of your health insurance, plus a chance to compare health insurance rates for your business. It's all the information you need.

**Come our way. And keep your business moving forward.**



### Nevada Division of Insurance

*Talk to us. We're here to help.*

# doi.nv.gov

# what's happening

PLACES TO BE. PEOPLE TO MEET. THINGS TO KNOW. IN **DECEMBER**

## december chamber connections

Join this established dedicated leads group made up of professionals from a variety of industries. Limited openings available; call for space availability.

**7:30 – 8:30 p.m.**  
See website for details on locations.

**Monday, December 2**  
**Tuesday, December 3**  
**Monday, December 16**  
**Tuesday, December 17**

## how to register:

Visit [LVChamber.com](http://LVChamber.com) and  
click on the Events Calendar.

Call 702.641.5822.

**03**

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3** **VYP MORNING BUZZ**

Enjoy a light breakfast and meet VYP Ambassadors and members of the Advisory council for an informational Q&A session.

**7:30 – 8:30 a.m.**  
**The InNEVation Center**  
**6795 Edmond St.**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89118**  
Complimentary

**03**

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3** **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** **INSTALLATION LUNCHEON**

Find out how business will lead the way as veteran media executive Bruce Spotleson is sworn in as Chairman of the 2014 Board of Trustees. Don't miss this opportunity to engage with key members of the Metro Chamber leadership.

**11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Aria Resort & Casino**  
**3730 Las Vegas Blvd. S.**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89109**  
\$60 Chamber Member, \$70 Non-Chamber Member  
\$80 Walk-in Registration, \$600 Table of 10  
Sponsored by: CenturyLink, Chamber Insurance & Benefits, COX, The Howard Hughes Corporation, NV Energy, Republic Services, SuperPawn, UnitedHealthcare

**09**

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 9** **VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS TOASTMASTERS**

The VYP Toastmasters group is for all members to aid in the development of speaking, presentation and leadership skills.

**6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Learning Village Inspire Theater - Trailer 1**  
**727 E. Fremont St.**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89101**  
FREE for guests  
\$60 to join, \$36 every six months.

**10**

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10** **CHAMBER VOICES TOASTMASTERS**

Become a better speaker and a more effective presenter by joining Chamber Voices Toastmasters. Open to all members.

**10:45 a.m. - Noon**  
**First American Title Company**  
**2500 Paseo Verde Pkwy. Ste. 120**  
**Henderson, NV 89074**  
\$54 every six months. Guests always complimentary.

**11**

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11** **BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

Raise a glass to building your professional network! Join the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce for an evening of cocktails, light bites and networking in this newly-redesigned wine bar.

**5:30 - 7:30 p.m.**  
**Aliante Casino & Hotel - Bistro 57**  
**7300 Aliante Pkwy.**  
**N. Las Vegas, NV 89084**  
Complimentary for Chamber members and their guests.  
Sponsored by: Chamber Insurance & Benefits



00 - CHAMBER EVENT

00 - VYP EVENT

december sponsors:

**Aliante**  
CASINO + HOTEL

**BANK OF NEVADA**

**CenturyLink**

**CHAMBER INSURANCE & BENEFITS**

**COX**

**Howard Hughes**  
THE HOWARD HUGHES CORPORATION

**inovation**  
CENTER

**NVEnergy**

**REPUBLIC SERVICES**

**SOUTHWEST GAS**  
smarter > greener > better

**SUNRISE HEALTH**  
SUNRISE | MOUNTAINVIEW | SOUTHERN HILLS | SUNRISE CHILDREN'S

**CashAmerica SUPER PAWN**  
CARE more. INSPIRE more. ACHIEVE more.

**T**  
Touro University Nevada

**UnitedHealthcare**

registration  
now  
open!

## Preview Las Vegas 2014

Build your business and see the latest in the Las Vegas market. Get the information you need to know for 2014 and beyond. Get empowered from the people, businesses and ideas that are 'making it happen' for the future of Las Vegas. For a complete list of speakers, see page 34.

## Friday, January 24

Thomas & Mack Center -  
Cox Pavilion

7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tickets:

**Earlybird pricing through 12.31.13**  
**\$50 - Members**

\$60 - Members

\$70 - Non-members/Walk-ins

Exhibitor opportunities also available exclusively for Metro Chamber members. Visit [PreviewLasVegas.com](http://PreviewLasVegas.com) for more details.

16

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 16 EGGS & ISSUES FEATURING U.S. CONGRESSMAN MARK AMODEI

Congressman Amodei will address important federal issues impacting the Southern Nevada business community and participate in a Q&A session.

7:30 - 8:00 a.m. Registration

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Program

Four Seasons Hotel

Four Seasons Ballroom - 2nd Floor

3960 Las Vegas Blvd. S

Las Vegas, NV 89119

\$40 Chamber Member, \$50 Non-Chamber Members

\$500 Table of 10

Sponsored by: Chamber Insurance & Benefits, CenturyLink, Southwest Gas, Sunrise Health, Touro University

17

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17 MORNING MINGLE

Maximize your Metro Chamber membership by attending this breakfast hosted by the Prospectors, who give firsthand accounts of how they used the Chamber to build their business.

7:30 - 8:00 a.m. Check-in & Networking

8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Program

SpringHill Suites by Marriott Las Vegas

Convention Center

2989 Paradise Rd.

Las Vegas, NV 89109

Sponsored by: Chamber Insurance & Benefits, COX, Bank of Nevada

Each month, the Metro Chamber highlights volunteers from its board, councils and committees. These volunteers make the Metro Chamber a vibrant, continually forward-moving organization. Be sure to introduce yourself the next time you see one.



**Bruce Spotleson, Chairman-Elect,  
Board of Trustees**

Bruce Spotleson is Director of Corporate Partnerships for Vegas PBS, a leading broadcast source for information, education and arts programming, online education and workforce training and a production partner for local media content creation and distribution. He has managed three media companies since arriving in Nevada in 1996, including *Las Vegas Business Press* and *VegasInc.*, two weekly publications focused specifically on the local business community. From 1993-1996, he was the publisher of the *Tahoe Daily Tribune*. During his time in the newspaper industry, he earned a number of awards for his weekly column from the Nevada Press Association.

Shortly after relocating to Las Vegas, he joined the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce and was awarded the Circle of Excellence honor in 1998. He is a past president of the Chamber's Business Council, two-time chair of the Business Expo committee and a 1999 graduate of the Leadership Las Vegas program.

Throughout his distinguished career in communications, he remarks that one of the best pieces of business advice he's ever been given was from a former boss: keep his shoes shined. "I'm not sure if he meant it literally or figuratively, but it's worked for me on both levels," he explains.

Spotleson's philanthropic efforts include serving as the founding chairman of the board for the Spring Valley Hospital Medical Center and co-founder of NevadaGIVES. In 2007, he was named Private Sector Person of the Year by the City of Henderson, the Henderson Development Association and the Henderson Chamber of Commerce. He is an active member of the community, supporting a number of organizations, projects and causes. His favorite thing to do on vacation is fly-fish in remote areas of the Arctic.

Spotleson also has tremendous pride for Las Vegas. His favorite bands include the Vegas-bred Killers and Imagine Dragons, and his favorite "locals only" jaunt is riding the bike trails that wind through the Las Vegas area. When asked what he's most optimistic about in regards to the future of Las Vegas, he replies, "Our business community is comprised of people who are caring, accepting, positive and resilient. When you have people like that, you can do almost anything."

Hear from Spotleson on his vision for the 2014 business community at the annual Installation Luncheon on Tuesday, December 3, at the Aria Resort and Casino. For tickets and tables, visit [LVChamber.com](http://LVChamber.com) or call 702.641.5822.

*Tis the Season . . .*

...CHARITABLE  
**GIVING**  
IN NEVADA  
DECEMBER 2013

This December *Nevada Business Magazine* will highlight the organizations that do so much for communities across the state. The special report will feature non-profits throughout Nevada and focus on how corporations in Nevada contribute to charitable organizations.

There are many ways to be involved and to highlight your organization's charitable giving. **For more information, contact your account representative or call 702.735.7003.**



**Nevada Business**  
the decision maker's magazine

# spotlights

## (B) Mike PeQueen

### Managing Director, Partner – HighTower Las Vegas

Mike PeQueen, CFA, CFP is the managing director and partner of HighTower Las Vegas, one of the most experienced wealth management firms in the western United States. Previously, he served as Senior Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager at Merrill Lynch. PeQueen completed his undergraduate degree in Finance at UNLV and his Masters in Finance and Banking at Boston University. In addition, he holds the prestigious Chartered Financial Analyst and Certified Financial Planner designations.

## (A) Lori Nelson

### Vice President, Corporate Communications – Station Casinos, Inc.

Lori Nelson has been responsible for the strategic development and implementation of the company's public relations activities, including media relations, social media and community relations for its 18 properties. She also serves as the company spokesperson. Nelson currently serves on the Governor's Planning Commission for Nevada's 150th celebration, is a 1999 graduate of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce Leadership Las Vegas program, and served as president of Child Focus at St. Jude's Ranch, a non-profit organization dedicated to sibling preservation efforts for Nevada's foster care system in 2011-2012.



## (D) Jeff Oberschelp

### Vice President and General Manager, Nevada – CenturyLink

Jeff Oberschelp, a veteran of the telecommunications industry, has operational and financial responsibility for CenturyLink in Nevada. Throughout his career, Oberschelp has served in numerous executive positions, including area vice president at Idearc Media and vice president and general manager at McLeodUSA. Oberschelp specializes in building high performing teams, strategy development and execution, building and managing large organizations and market share acquisition. He serves on the Board of Trustees for the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce.

## (C) Lesley McVay

### Executive Vice President of Facility Services – Switch

Lesley McVay is responsible for managing client installations for all of Switch's data center facilities, totaling more than two million square feet. She works with clients ranging from Fortune 100 companies and government agencies to mid-sized enterprises and startups to produce successful, timely installations. Before joining Switch, McVay was the Director of Operations for a successful Las Vegas-based software company. McVay serves on the Board of Trustees for the Metro Chamber. She is an integral member of the Jedi Order and looks forward to becoming a Jedi Master in the coming years.

president's  
club



**Russell Harris**

Chief Executive Officer – The Harris Network LLC

Russell Harris is the founding officer of The Harris Network, moving the organization from Virginia in 2012. He is responsible for all operational and financial aspects of the business. Previously, he served as a senior executive at the United States Department of Labor. Harris graduated from Virginia Union University in Richmond, Virginia, and The National Louis University in Virginia. Career appointments include a U.S. Presidential appointment and appointments by Governors of Virginia.

**Shanda Alcantara**

Area Director, Sales & Marketing – Covenant Care Inc./Silver Ridge & Silver Hills Healthcare Center

Covenant Care Inc. operates 46 facilities in six states which provide occupational, physical and speech rehabilitation therapy and long term care to individuals who can no longer take care of themselves. Alcantara's responsibilities include developing the branding strategy and planning sales and marketing activities for all Nevada centers. Before joining CCI, Alcantara was vice president of marketing for the Chalaco Corporation.

**Stefan Gastager**

President – Hofbrauhaus Las Vegas

Stefan Gastager visited Las Vegas in 2000 and decided to introduce high-quality Bavarian food, premium beer and coziness – "Gemutlichkeit" – to the country at a location that would appeal to tourists and locals. Partners Klaus Gastager, Franz Krondorfer and Anton Sinzger spent three years making Hofbrauhaus a reality. They have created an authentic replica of the Munich Hofbrauhaus that was originally commissioned in 1589 by King William V.



executive  
level

**Douglas Geinzer**

Chief Executive Officer – Las Vegas HEALS

Doug Geinzer is an influential leader in the healthcare employment arena. He has built and sold several media and employment-related businesses since he moved to Nevada from Pittsburgh, PA. Geinzer currently serves as president of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce Business Council and currently sits on the boards of the American Heart Association and the Governor's Workforce Investment Board for the State of Nevada.

**Robert M. "Bob" Brown**

Publisher – Las Vegas Review-Journal/Stephens Media

A 30-year newspaper industry veteran, Bob Brown is the publisher of several local publications, including the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, *Las Vegas Business Press*, and *Las Vegas Health* magazine. Brown is currently on the board of directors of Opportunity Village, the Better Business Bureau and Special Olympics of Nevada. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees for the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce.

**Greg Twedt**

Business Counselor – The SCORE Association, Chapter 243

Greg Twedt was a co-founder of Highjump Software, where he held positions as vice president of product development, CFO, and general manager. He also held executive marketing and corporate development positions at Hutchinson Technology and served as a management consultant with Deloitte & Touche. Twedt has a BA in Chemistry from the University of South Dakota and attended the Ohio State University School of Business.

# member insights

The College of Southern Nevada has a few selected programs that we put all our effort into each holiday season. We all adopt children as part of the Angel Tree Program to donate gifts and gift cards to all the families we can, we work closely on the Toys for Tots program, and we also have canned food drives to donate to the local homeless shelters to make sure no one goes hungry during the holidays.

[Dr. Joan McGee - Executive Director of Campus Administration, College of Southern Nevada \(A\)](#)

Red Rock Fertility Center loves children. We are in the business of helping our patients become parents. So it only felt natural for us to have a yearly holiday toy drive for children in need. Last year our office gathered new toys, books, etc. and donated them to Candlelighters of Southern Nevada, a wonderful charity that helps children dealing with cancer.

[Erin Rutten - Director of Business Development & Marketing, Red Rock Fertility Center \(B\)](#)

Once every four to five weeks, we assemble business owners and BDO's in various business conference rooms throughout the Valley. The purpose is to connect people. Today we had fifteen business people in a room, shared who we each know, what we do, and who we may connect the others too.

[Clay Overlien - Senior V.P. of Financial Services, Cornerstone Merchant Services, Inc.](#)

For Thanksgiving, our office collected canned food items, grocery gift cards and any other non-perishable foods to donate to local families in the Las Vegas area through various charities such as Rescue Mission, HELP of Southern Nevada, and the United Way of Southern Nevada. For Christmas, we will be holding a toy and clothing drive collection to donate to various charities in Las Vegas.

[Victoria Pua - Business Development Coordinator, Southland Industries \(C\)](#)

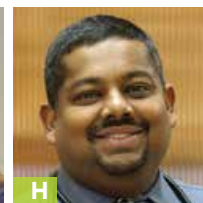
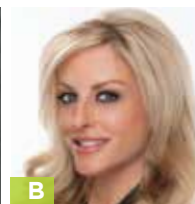
Giving back is a big part of our culture. We volunteer and do pro bono work for Junior Achievement and The Children's Free Clinic, and we just welcomed two tech startups, Record Setter and Computers for a Cause, into our office in #DTLV for \$1 a month for 12 months.

[B.C. LeDoux - President/Partner, The Glenn Group \(D\)](#)

Our family is actively involved with the West Charleston Lions Club. Year-round we support the Blind Center of Nevada, Nevada Childhood Cancer Foundation, UMC Burn Center, homeless veterans and many more local organizations. We provide Christmas to two families through the Adopt-a-Family program at the Nevada Childhood Cancer Foundation.

[James Rogers - Owner, Master Automotive Centers \(E\)](#)

## HOW DOES YOUR COMPANY GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY?



I give back to the community by using my legal training to represent those who cannot afford legal services. I donate more than 100 hours every year. I also serve as a truancy court judge and mentor at a local high school, encouraging students to graduate and stay in school.

[Laura Deeter - Attorney, Ghandi Deeter Law Offices \(F\)](#)

Allegiant Travel Company has partnered with Make-A-Wish to provide airfare for wish families traveling to their wish destinations. In the last year, Allegiant has provided travel for more than 65 wishes and has donated more than \$100,000 to Make-A-Wish sponsored events throughout the country.

[Keith Hansen - Allegiant Air](#)

Throughout the year, we donate communications strategies to non-profits, driven by our employees' interests. During the holidays, employees ramp it up through volunteer activities benefitting Catholic Charities, Three Square, Casa de Luz, Habitat for Humanity, Movember, and Child Focus. We grow beards, build houses, clean out closets, and shop!

[Cindy Dreibelis - Executive Director, R&R Partners Foundation Principal, R&R Partners \(G\)](#)

We are getting involved in the Three Square Food Bank and collecting clothing and toys to donate to Safe Nest.

[Dr. Ravi Ramanathan, MD - Family Doctors of Green Valley \(H\)](#)

# north las vegas

ALL FOR ONE AND ONE FOR ALL

BY MAYOR JOHN LEE  
CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS

T

he holiday season is an exciting time of year when families and friends get together to give and help others. The charitable season is the perfect backdrop to express my thoughts on unity, which I have identified as the third greatest challenge facing North Las Vegas.

Alexander Dumas provides one of the greatest maxims on unity in *The Three Musketeers* when he penned, "All for one and one for all." Within a city or business, unity can be the glue that bonds, or in its absence, a poison that divides and destroys.

Unsolved problems and festering challenges can rip apart an organization. After being elected, I was excited to get into office and wrap my arms around our city's problems and start working on solutions. Frankly, I am shocked by the depth of the problems we are uncovering and how close our town has been driven to the brink of ruin. It became clear to me that the void in leadership and management skills created tremendous divisions throughout City Hall, separation within our community, and a bitter disconnection with our regional partners.

**Unity truly begins at home.** First, North Las Vegas must get its house, City Hall, in order before it can begin tackling the challenge of unifying our community. Institutional policies and practices can contribute to the erosion of unity. For example, those who have visited our City Hall probably know that to visit the Mayor and Council offices on the 9th floor you must first check in with security on the 1st floor. Without addressing my issues with this inhospitable practice for our visitors, I was shocked to learn even employees had to check in because employee badges would not allow them to access the 9th floor. While it was easy to change this policy to demonstrate our commitment to unifying our team, the work to repair the damage done by unnecessary policies continues.

**Unifying our town.** Our unity problems are not unique to our town. Often, roads and neighborhoods are seen as dividers instead of unifiers. Common ground is often separated by battle lines where communities begin to develop perceptions about who is on the wrong side of the track, who is living in a bad neighborhood, or where the 'poor area' of town is located. Thankfully, perceptions do not always lead to a concrete reality and our fractured religious, ethnic and socioeconomic communities can be reunited and strengthened from within to unify the whole.



**Unifying the region.** In a state clearly divided by North/South tensions, North Las Vegas' past position of not playing well with others became particularly crippling for our city and we are paying the price for failing to unify with our neighbors. Sometimes, being at rock bottom forces decision makers to face their fears and compels them to have a difficult conversation about where we are and what we need to do. We have become actively engaged in embracing a new spirit of cooperation with our metro partners. We just recently entered into a historical and monumental shared services agreement between North Las Vegas and Las Vegas to ensure both cities are vibrant and successful. We have also been in touch with other local governments to look for opportunities to work together to build our region. This innovative approach to government will become a model of good, efficient governance pioneered out of a new unity in our region as we embody the "all for one, one for all" motto necessary to move our region forward.

# member news

PRESIDENT'S CLUB MEMBER | EXECUTIVE LEVEL

The Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce is proud to provide members with a place to publish their current announcements. Email news items to [pr@lvchamber.com](mailto:pr@lvchamber.com) or fax to Public Relations at 702.735.0320.

## congratulations

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid was presented the Champion of Justice Award by **Nevada Legal Services** for his lifelong contributions to the cause of equal access to justice. In addition, **Gordon Silver** was honored as the 2013 Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year for its support and contributions to pro bono legal work in Southern Nevada.

**Burke Construction Group** was honored with the J.A. Tiberti Spirit Award at the 2013 AGC / NCA Contractor of the Year Awards, for the company's innovative approach to project delivery, business mentoring, customer support, value added service and new technology.

**Answer Plus, Inc.** has been presented the Award of Excellence for the third consecutive year by the Canadian Call Management Association.



**Lionel Sawyer & Collins** shareholder Linda M. Bullen was elected to a three-year term as a member of the governing Board of Regents of the American College of Environmental Lawyers (ACOEL). She is the first Nevada attorney to be invited to join ACOEL.

Carole Fisher, president and chief executive officer of **Nathan Adelson Hospice**, was honored with a national Kimberley Evans Compassion Award, which recognizes individuals who have shown exceptional generosity of time, heart, spirit and resources to support families and children in need. The award was presented to Fisher by Actor/Comedian Brad Garrett.

**Sunrise Health System's MountainView Hospital** and **Southern Hills Hospital** were named two of the nation's Top Performers on Key Quality Measures™ by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of healthcare organizations in America. Both hospitals were recognized for exemplary performance in using evidence-based clinical processes that are shown to improve care for certain conditions, such as heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia and surgical care.



Martin Little, a shareholder with **Jolley Urga Wirth Woodbury & Standish**, received Martindale-Hubbell's® highest Peer Review Rating™. The Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings are generated from evaluations of lawyers by other members of the bar and the judiciary.

**Greenspun Media Group** received three EPPY Awards from *Editor & Publisher* magazine. [LasVegasSun.com](http://LasVegasSun.com) received two EPPY Awards for "Grace Through Grief," and [LasVegasWeekly.com](http://LasVegasWeekly.com) was recognized for "Best Redesign/Relaunch with Under 1 Million Unique Monthly Visitors."



## community service

**Journey Education** private school participated in an event with Governor Brian Sandoval and Lt. Governor Brian Krolicki as they unveiled the refurbished Old Spanish Trail Marker at the Old Mormon Fort to celebrate Nevada's 150th birthday.

As part of its Caring, Giving, Changing community campaign, **Miracle Mile Shops at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino** turned its fountain blue during the month of November and donated all change tossed in it to the Nevada Chapter of JDRF, the world's largest nonprofit supporter of type 1 diabetes (T1D) research.

## announcements

Longtime Nevada media executive and 2014 chairman of the Metro Chamber Bruce Spotleson joined **Vegas PBS** as the new Director of Corporate Partnerships. In his new position, Spotleson is responsible for leading the sponsorship team in developing corporate and institutional support for Vegas PBS.

Veteran educator Darlin Delgado joined the staff as principal of **Clark County School District's** Virtual High School.



**The Glenn Group** hired Chris Charles Scott as public relations director in the strategy and innovation division. Scott is responsible for strategy, ideation, helping to manage multiple accounts, plan and execute comprehensive programs and serve as a client advocate while developing imaginative solutions.



**Nevada State Bank** has named Andrew Chewning branch manager for its Centennial Hills branch and Stephanie Carrero branch manager of its Rainbow and Westcliff branch.



Bobby Hollis, executive of Renewable Energy for **NV Energy**, has been named to the Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA) Board of Directors. SEPA is an educational non-profit organization based in Washington dedicated to helping utilities integrate solar power into their energy portfolios.



**The Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance** appointed Steven Maniago to the position of Sr. Vice President for Corporate Finance and Analysis.

## wheeling and dealing

**Tony Shelton Dealing School** moved offices to 900 E. Karen Ave., Suite A-108, where it will continue offering poker, blackjack and roulette classes.

Dianna Russo, managing principal at **Houldsworth, Russo & Company**, has begun taking part in Women's Money Radio to help women embrace their financial health, and provide tips and guidance regarding various financial topics.

**America First Credit Union** is offering customers a Picture Perfect Visa card, personalized with digital photos they've uploaded from their smart phones. Now, America First members can also share their customized images with their friends on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest.

**TNG Models** announce a new Acting Division to the agency and booked some of its SAG/AFTRA actors for the Fall/Winter commercial to promote Nevada Tourism.

## upcoming events

Through December 31, **Winder Farms** customers can donate a turkey to **Three Square Food Bank** by clicking on "Donate a Turkey to the Food Bank" during their regular online shopping and the cost of the turkey will be added to their next bill. Visit [winderfarms.com](http://winderfarms.com).

Through December 13, several **Dunkin' Donuts** restaurants will adopt a family supported by the **Nevada Childhood Cancer Foundation**. Customers can visit any of the participating 15 stores and select an "ornament" from a Christmas tree listing an item needed for that family. Upon return to that Dunkin' Donuts restaurant with their donated item, the guest will receive one free medium hot or iced coffee. For more information on the Adopt-A-Family Drive, please visit [LVDonuts.com](http://LVDonuts.com).

Glittering Lights, the holiday drive-through spectacular at the **Las Vegas Motor Speedway** runs nightly through Sunday, January 5, 2014. It will feature more than 400 animated, energy-efficient LED lights along a 2.5-mile racetrack. A portion of Glittering Lights' proceeds will aid Speedway Children's Charities efforts in funding children's charities throughout Southern Nevada. Purchase tickets at [glitteringlightslasvegas.com](http://glitteringlightslasvegas.com)

# member to member

## THE ROI OF BUSINESS GIVING

B

usiness success is often discussed and measured in monetary terms - revenue growth, profit margin, and stock value or stock price. However, what is often not measured is the value a business brings to the community.

As the CEO of TheLivingPages, my mission is to connect and support the local community through our consultative and marketing offerings for small and medium-sized businesses. Since our inception we have sought out partnerships with non-profit organizations such as the Las Vegas Rescue Mission and Las Vegas Rotary Club. We don't want to just sell to the community; we want to be a part of the community. We volunteer our time and donate funds to various projects that serve our neighborhood and improve our community.

Today, we have forged new relationships with larger corporations to donate dozens of laptop computers, Kindle Readers, and other needed items to schools and those in need. We have also allocated additional time volunteering our services and products to The Shade Tree, Salvation Army, Goodie Two Shoes and Roseman University of Health Sciences, to name a few projects.

Company donations and giving are not new concepts by any means, but today companies are finding ways to give back to our much deserved community for a variety of positive reasons. Here are three key reasons I believe every business should implement a giving program of their own:

**Team Strength** - Community service creates strong bonds and respect among employees. Being a part of a business that positively influences the community gives way to higher team productivity and loyalty. It is not a coincidence that a business that builds strong community ties is often the business that we associate with business success and growth.

**Brand Recognition and Development** - Every company should have an image recognized by the public. McDonald's may be in the business of selling burgers, but we also know that millions of dollars are being donated back to the community through the Ronald McDonald House Charities. If your goal is to ensure that your brand is associated with a positive image, build a brand story that includes your contribution to



the community. People buy from companies they admire and trust, and the only way to build the image is to earn that admiration and trust with community involvement beyond just selling.

**Long-Lasting Relationships** - The people you will meet while volunteering your time in the community are the same people who will remember you when business opportunities arise. For example, without ever being prompted, our community partners and those who heard about our community work connected us to their corporate sponsors and partners to bring us amazing opportunities to grow our business. We have built up trust and admiration in the community, and it is paying off for our business as well. Doing something selfless always seems to give back in multiples.

As you look to choose the projects in which to get involved, just remember that it is easier to get your team members and employees involved when you lead by example. Find a program that works for you and start today. Success will soon follow.



By: Janet Lee,  
CEO, TheLivingPages,  
[thelivingpages.com](http://thelivingpages.com)

# chamber insurance & benefits



## DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF PEO SERVICES 101

# A

Most business owners want to focus their time and energy on the “business of their business” and not on the “business of employment.” Most business owners don’t have the necessary human resource training, payroll and accounting skills, knowledge of regulatory compliance, or background in risk management, insurance and employee benefit programs to meet the demands of being a good employer. For the business that has a human resource department, Professional Employer Organizations (PEOs) provide valuable and complementary expertise and services.

More than 2 million American workers are currently employed by Professional Employer Organizations (PEOs). These employees represent every facet of the workforce, from accountants to zookeepers. There is no stereotypical PEO client – professional employer services appeal to companies of all sizes and profiles.

In the relationship among a PEO, a worksite employee, and a client company, there exists a co-employment relationship in which both the PEO and client company contractually allocate and share traditional employer responsibilities and liabilities. The PEO assumes responsibility and liability for the “business of employment” including risk management, human resources, labor law compliance, payroll, and employee taxes. The client company manages product development and production, marketing, sales, and service. The PEO assumes and establishes an employment relationship with the worksite employee and provides a complete human resource and employee benefit package.

Businesses use a PEO to...

- Offer professional human resource services including employee handbooks, forms, policies and procedures
- Ensure professional compliance with state and federal laws and regulations
- Improve risk management practices
- Control costs
- Save time and paperwork hassles
- Reduce turnover
- Enhance employee morale
- Simplify claims management for workers’ comp and unemployment insurance
- Provide better benefits packages
- Obtain guidance on worksite employment issues

### Guidelines for Selecting a PEO

- Assess your workplace to determine your human resource and risk management needs.
- Make sure the PEO is capable of meeting your goals. Meet the people who will be serving you.
- Ask for client and professional references.
- Check the firm’s financial background, and ask for banking and credit references. Ask the PEO to demonstrate that payroll taxes and insurance premiums have been paid.
- Check to see if the company is a member of NAPEO, the national trade association of the PEO industry at [www.napeo.org](http://www.napeo.org).
- Investigate the company’s administrative and risk management service competence. Find out whether the PEO is certified by the Certification Institute.
- Understand how the employee benefits are funded. Is the PEO fully insured or partially self-funded? Who is the third-party administrator (TPA) or carrier? Is their TPA or carrier authorized to do business in your state?
- Understand how the employee benefits are tailored. Determine if they fit the needs of your employees.
- Make sure that the company you are considering meets all state requirements.

This information is brought to you by Chamber Insurance & Benefits, administrator of the Chamber Health Plan. For information on insurance coverage options for your business, go to [ChamberIB.com](http://ChamberIB.com). This month’s information is provided by the National Association of Professional Employer Organizations (NAPEO), from “Discover Benefits of Professional Employer Organizations.”

# ribbon cuttings

CELEBRATING BUSINESS GROWTH

To arrange your ribbon cutting, contact Georgia Allen at 702.586.3838 or email [gallen@lvchamber.com](mailto:gallen@lvchamber.com)



## RED ROCK FERTILITY CENTER

Red Rock Fertility Center proudly announced the opening of its second location at 870 Seven Hills Dr., Ste. 103, in Henderson. Red Rock Fertility Center helps couples with the treatment of infertility. Call 702.262.0079 or visit [redrockfertility.com](http://redrockfertility.com).



## THE UPS STORE

The UPS Store commemorated its grand opening located at 505 E. Windmill Ln., Ste. 1C, with team members, family and friends. It offers shipping, mailbox services, digital printing, copying services, office supplies, moving supplies and packaging materials, as well as freight and notary services. Call 702.701.9993 or visit [theupsstore.com/6393](http://theupsstore.com/6393).



## LAS VEGAS FRUITS & NUTS

Las Vegas Fruits & Nuts announced its grand opening at 5775 S. Eastern Ave. It specializes in corporate, branded, convention and gourmet gifts for any occasion. Call 743.7147 or visit [lasvegasfruitsandnuts.com](http://lasvegasfruitsandnuts.com).



## ARIZONA DUDE RANCH ASSOCIATION

Arizona Dude Ranch Association celebrated its Metro Chamber membership. It offers family adventure, a taste of the Western lifestyle, a relaxed atmosphere, retreats and romantic getaways. Saddle up and see the "real Arizona." Call 520.823.4277, or visit [azda.com](http://azda.com) for more information.



## NEVADA YOUTH ALLIANCE

Nevada Youth Alliance celebrated its 14th Annual Back to School Health Educational Fair with local dignitaries and Metro Chamber member businesses. Visit [nevadayouthalliance.com](http://nevadayouthalliance.com) for more information.



## OPPORTUNITY VILLAGE

Opportunity Village commemorated its grand opening and newest North Las Vegas location at 4180 W. Craig Rd. with local dignitaries. Visit [opportunityvillage.org](http://opportunityvillage.org).



SPONSORED BY:



PC - President's Club

EL - Executive Level

\$ - Chamber Member Discount



#### RITA'S LAS VEGAS

Rita's Las Vegas celebrated its grand opening at 2192 N. Rainbow Blvd., Ste. 101, with friends and family. During the celebration, staff members presented a check to the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth. Call 702.533.3717 or visit [www.facebook.com/RitasLasVegas](http://www.facebook.com/RitasLasVegas).



#### MARQUIS CENTENNIAL HILLS

Marquis Centennial Hills, located at 6351 N. Ft. Apache Rd., announced its new short-term therapy/rehabilitation room. Marquis Centennial Hills offers residents the highest level of post-acute rehab, rehabilitation & long term care services. Call 702.515.3000 or visit [marquiscompanies.com](http://marquiscompanies.com).



#### BRANCH BENEFITS CONSULTANTS

Branch Benefits Consultants celebrated its two-year anniversary at 2480 N. Decatur Blvd., Ste. 140. It provides client-specific employee benefits consulting services for all industries. Call 702.646.2082 or visit [branchbenefitsconsultants.com](http://branchbenefitsconsultants.com).



#### BASKOW AND ASSOCIATES

Baskow and Associates celebrated 37 years of "going global" at 2948 E. Russell Rd. Since 1976, Baskow and Associates has been a leader in event, meeting and destination management services, with specially-trained staff and resources to make your special event, meeting or convention one to remember. Call 702.733.7818 or visit [baskow.com](http://baskow.com).



#### BOWHEAD SYSTEMS BOWHEAD/UIC TECH SERVICES

Bowhead Systems Bowhead/UIC Tech Services commemorated its grand opening at 777 N. Rainbow Blvd., Ste. 380 with dignitaries. UIC Technical Services and its Bowhead family of companies provide defense and civilian government agencies, as well as private sector customers, expertise in program management, systems engineering and integration, risk management, training and simulation. Call 702.816.5088 or visit [bowheadsupport.com](http://bowheadsupport.com).

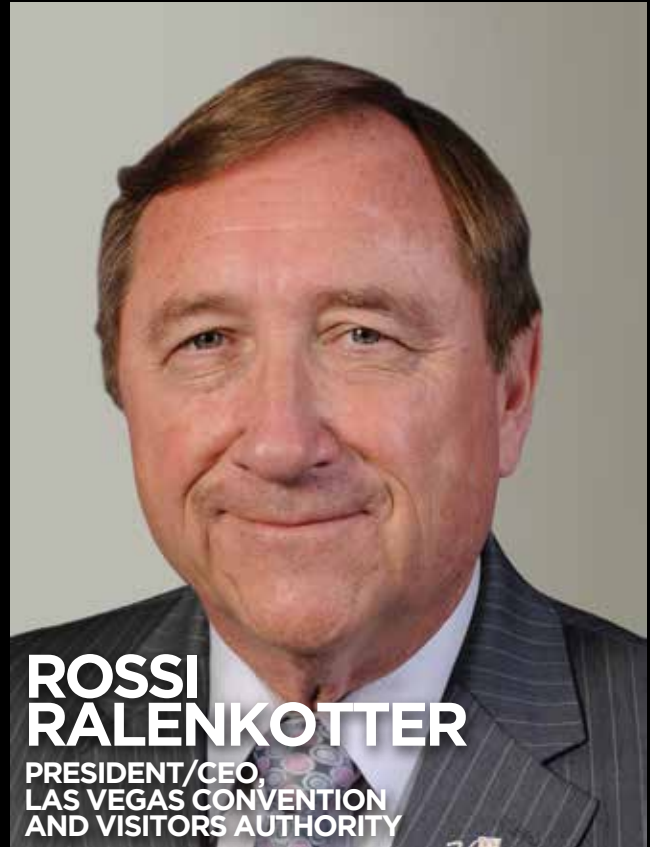
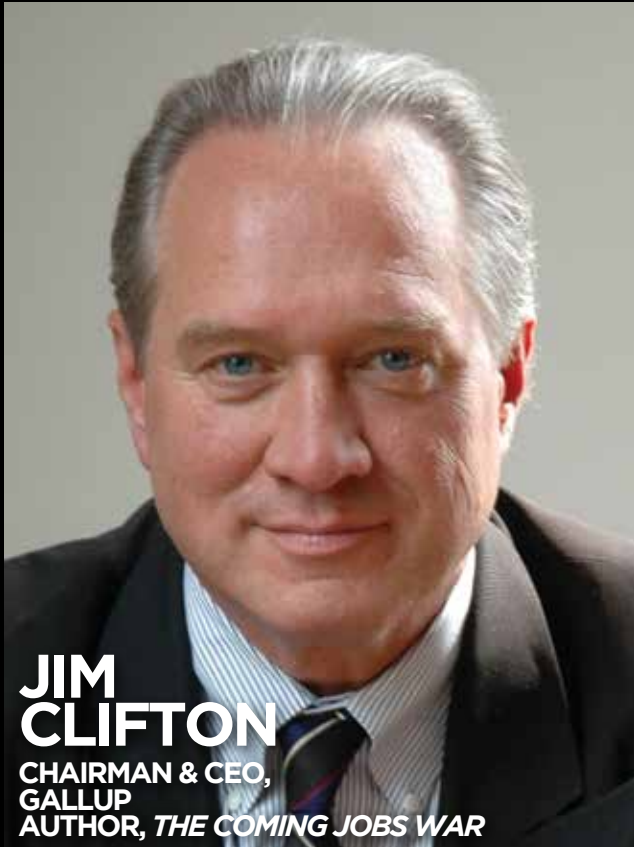


#### 7-ELEVEN (STORE # 33497C)

7-Eleven (Store # 33497C) celebrated its new management team and grand re-opening at 3001 S. Las Vegas Blvd., at Las Vegas Blvd. and Convention Center Dr. This location welcomes more than 150,000 guests annually. Call 702.401.7490 or visit Facebook. [com/7ElevenStore33497c](http://com/7ElevenStore33497c).

# ■ LAS VEGAS preview

MAKE IT HAPPEN



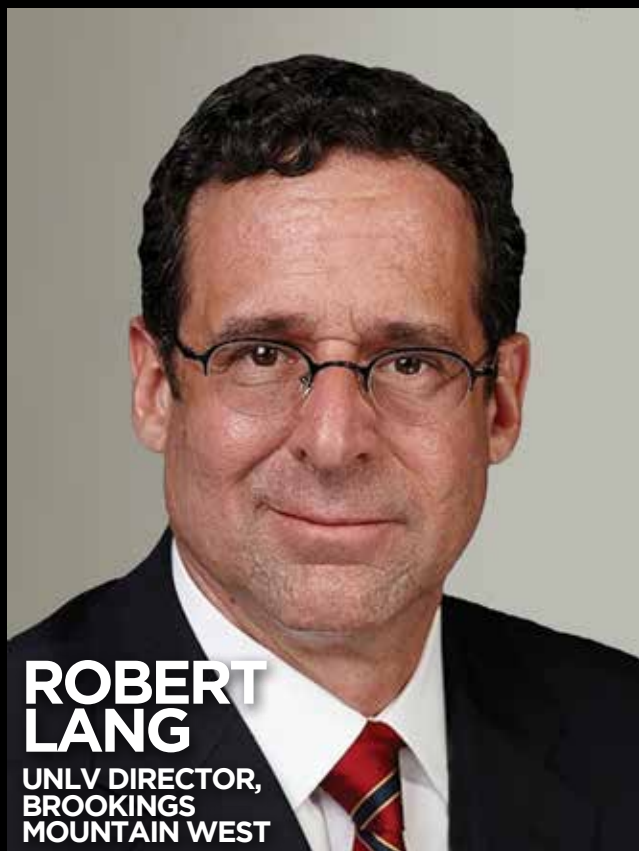
Friday, January 24, 2014  
7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Thomas & Mack Center  
Cox Pavilion

## PLATINUM SPONSORS



# IT'S ALL ABOUT **JOBS.** FIND OUT WHY AT **PREVIEW.**



Get your **tickets & booths**  
at [PreviewLasVegas.com](http://PreviewLasVegas.com)  
or call 702.641.5822.

**\$50 for Members Until 12.31.13**  
\$60 for Members  
\$80 for Non-Members

## **GOLD SPONSORS (AS OF: 11.20.2013)**

Southwest Gas | The Howard Hughes Corporation | Bank of Nevada  
Nevada Drug Card | JABarrett Company | Sunrise Health System  
SkyHigh Marketing | Vegas PBS | Nevada Public Radio



# vegas young professionals

presenting  
sponsors



vyp fusion  
mixer at  
gold spike

Welcome in a new year of possibilities for new business connections with Vegas Young Professionals. Don't miss the first VYP Fusion Mixer of 2014 at the Gold Spike in Downtown Las Vegas. Meet other young professionals from around the Valley, including members of Teach for America and Venture for America during this special networking opportunity. This event will feature great business building, a complimentary drink and access to one of Downtown's newest and most popular spots.

Thursday, January 30  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Gold Spike  
217 Las Vegas Blvd. N.,  
Online: \$10- Members,  
\$15- Non-members  
At the door: \$15- Members,  
\$20- Non-members  
Register online at VegasYP.com  
or by calling 702.641.5822

Mixer Sponsor:

**VEGASINC**



A

As my term as VYP Advisory Council Chair comes to an end, I thought it appropriate to reflect on how much the organization has evolved just in the last year. When I first joined VYP more than five years ago, we were a membership-based organization with a heavy focus on networking events. When VYP Director Adam Kramer joined the Chamber a little over two and a half years ago, he quickly recognized the sometimes transient nature of our city. Vegas is able to develop and even attract talent; it's keeping the talent here that presents a challenge. In his research, he discovered that people leave Vegas because they don't put down roots and feel disconnected from the community. Determined to find a way to tether talent to our city, Adam connected with other professional organizations across the country to exchange ideas. From what he learned, he significantly shifted the focus of our organization.

Our mission now is to become the organization through which residents and transplants can make immediate connections to the community and establish roots in an otherwise transient city, with the goal to retain talent here in Las Vegas. I'm proud to report we've made great strides toward that goal.

First we eliminated membership dues. Some council members (myself included) worried that our membership might suffer for a lack of perceived value. We were all pleasantly surprised when, within a few short months of the change, our participation skyrocketed. But that's not the best part. Our membership diversified. We have begun seeing members from every organizational level from industries that were previously unrepresented in our membership. At today's VYP events, in

addition to those industries commonly represented, you can also meet people from gaming, hospitality, education, government and manufacturing.

Our Community Outreach Committee, chaired by Advisory Council Member Kelli Vaz, has given back so much to our community. Members can find volunteer opportunities on a weekly basis, from serving meals at the Ronald McDonald House to repainting our adopted Hallie Hewetson Elementary School and participating in a 5K.

Our Toastmasters group continues to grow as well, drawing new members from the downtown tech startup community. Meeting twice monthly and headed up by Advisory Council Member Melissa Skipworth, the Toastmasters group is an excellent way to meet new professional contacts while improving your public speaking skills.

We are forming other committees to serve additional segments of the community, so I'm very excited to see what next year will bring for VYP. It's an organization I've been involved with since I started my practice and an organization I will continue to be a part of as long as my birthdate permits. I proudly hand the reins over to another long-time committed VYP member, and incoming Advisory Council Chair Jasmine Freeman, whose work as chair of the Ambassador Committee has contributed greatly to the expansion of our membership.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.



By: Gina Bongiovi,  
VYP Advisory Council Chair





fusion  
mixer  
@  
level 107 lounge



More than 150 young professionals created new business connections perched atop the Las Vegas Strip during November's Fusion Mixer at Level 107 Lounge inside the Stratosphere Casino, Hotel & Tower. Attendees mixed, mingled and expanded their professional networks while sipping cocktails and taking in the expansive views from the Stratosphere.

# the final word

## A MESSAGE FROM 2013 CHAIRMAN JAY BARRETT

It has been with great pride and much pleasure that I served as your 2013 Chairman of the Metro Chamber Board of Trustees. Our Metro Chamber is on the move, providing leadership, working in partnership and making things happen in Southern Nevada.

When I took the reins of the chairmanship a year ago, I told you that the curtain was rising on the next phase of Las Vegas history. Maximizing our opportunities for a bright future was going to require all of us participating and getting involved, activating and spreading the word so everyone is headed in the same direction. I thank you for hearing the call to action this past year to enable the successes we achieved which has strengthened our foundation for quality growth in the days to come.

The Las Vegas Metro Chamber, as it has been for more than a century, is providing strong leadership and driving positive change to ensure Southern Nevada is well positioned to compete in the global marketplace.

Our Metro Chamber brings people together from throughout our community to work in partnership. From our membership, including Leadership Las Vegas alumni, Vegas Young Professionals, North Las Vegas members, Military Affairs Council, Policy Committees and startup entrepreneurs, the Las Vegas Metro Chamber is working collaboratively with elected officials, other business organizations, education and non-profit leaders and passionate individuals to address challenges and forge a strong future.

Our Metro Chamber is advocating at all levels of government for the policies and resources we need to move Southern Nevada forward. During the important 2013 legislative session, the Metro Chamber was a strong voice for business in Carson City. We worked together in partnership with elected officials, other business associations, across industries and collaboratively with many community partners to secure more money for K-12 and higher education and begin to address governance issues to ensure Southern Nevada is more proportionately represented in resource allocation. At the local level, the Chamber successfully pushed to pass Fuel Tax Indexing to complete the 215 Beltway and raise resources for Interstate 11. And the Chamber was an integral part of restructuring water rates to ensure long term access to a dependable water supply.

Our Metro Chamber continues to provide you with the resources and connections to help you build and grow your business. The Chamber is providing you with myriad of opportunities to build relationships and tap into the resources you need to run your business. And as the Affordable Care Act has taken effect, the Chamber has worked to ensure you can still rely upon the Chamber Health Plan.



I am proud to say that because of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber, our community is moving forward, addressing our challenges, and building towards a future full of possibility. 2014 – Here we come!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our community. I am excited about our continuing commitment to grow Southern Nevada for the benefit of future generations, to look back years down the road and say Good Show!

# Just what the doctor ordered.



## Free Statewide Prescription Assistance Program

For more information or to order hard cards please contact:

**Suzanne Domoracki • [Suzanne@nevadadrugcard.com](mailto:Suzanne@nevadadrugcard.com) • 702-510-0100**

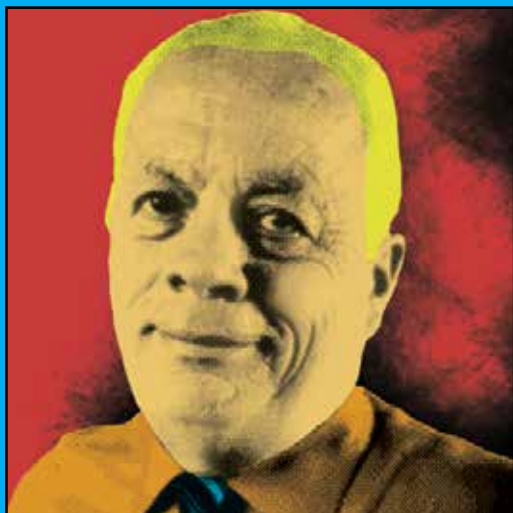
Nevada Drug Card Preferred Pharmacy:  
**CVS/pharmacy**

**NEVADA DRUG CARD**  
WWW.NEVADADRUGCARD.COM



Join us for the Las Vegas  
Metro Chamber of Commerce

# Installation Luncheon



Honoring Incoming Chairman

*Bruce Spotleson*

and the 2014 Board of Trustees

**December 3, 2013**

ARIA Resort & Casino, 3730 Las Vegas Blvd.

11:30 a.m. - Registration & Networking  
Noon - 1:00 p.m. - Luncheon & Program

\$60 - Chamber Members  
\$70 - Non-Members  
\$80 - Walk-Ins  
\$600 - Table of 10

Purchase your seats and  
tables at [LVChamber.com](http://LVChamber.com)  
or by calling 702.641.5822

## SPONSORS:



**RESERVE YOUR BOOTH &  
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

**preview** LAS VEGAS  
MAKE IT HAPPEN

**“YOU  
HAVE  
TO  
JUMPSTART  
YOUR  
CITY  
YOURSELF.”**

**-JIM  
CLIFTON**

CHAIRMAN & CEO,  
GALLUP  
AUTHOR, *THE COMING JOBS WAR*

**JANUARY 24, 2014**  
THOMAS & MACK CENTER  
COX PAVILION

[PREVIEWLASVEGAS.COM](http://PREVIEWLASVEGAS.COM)  
702.641.5822

